

Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group
FINAL: Minutes for April Meeting
4/13/05

Minutes by Dorothy Shoemaker

Present at meeting:

Neighborhood Associations:

Robin Plance	(b) (6)	St. Johns; Chair of CAG, Administrative committee coordinator
Peter Laughingwolf	(b) (6)	Cathedral Park

Environment:

Dorothy Shoemaker	(b) (6)	Sierra Club, Board Secretary
Joe Keating	(b) (6)	Oregon Wildlife Federation
Rhett Lawrence	(b) (6)	Education and Outreach coordinator
	(b) (6)	OSPIRG
	rhett@ospirg.org	
	503-251-4181, x313	
Travis Williams	travis@willamette-riverkeeper.org	Willamette Riverkeeper

Health:

Jane Harris	jane@oregon-health.org	Oregon Center for Environmental Health (OCEH), Evaluation Committee coordinator
	503-233-1510	

Business:

Steve Gunther	(b) (6)	Progressive Products and Services
	(b) (6)	

Recreation:

Bill Egan	no email, (b) (6)	Oregon Bass and Panfish Club
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At-Large:

Jim Robison	(b) (6)	Citizen
	(b) (6)	
Jackie Calder	(b) (6)	Citizen
	(b) (6)	
Bill McCauley	no email, (b) (6)	Citizen
Tom Chisolm	(b) (6)	Citizen (new member)
	(b) (6)	

Absent:

Neighborhood Associations:

Larry Talbert	(b) (6)	Hi Noon
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Environment:

Recreation:

Raquel Coyote	(b) (6)	Citizen
Bill Barrett	(b) (6)	Waterfront Org. of Oregon (WOO)

Others present:

Barbara Smith	Barbara@harrisandsmith.com 206-343-0250	Lower Willamette Group (LWG)
Regina Skarzinskas	regina@TASLLC.com 503-641-0230	Willamette-Riverkeeper
Kim Cox	kimc@bes.ci.portland.or.us 503-823-5313	City of Portland
Sue Safford	saffos@portptld.com 503-944-7047	Port of Portland
Mikell O'Mealy	omealy.mikell@deq.state.or.us 503-229-6590	DEQ
Jim Anderson	Anderson.jim@deq.state.or.us 503-229-6825	DEQ
Judy Smith	smith.judy@epa.gov 503-326-6994	EPA
Chip Humphrey	humphrey.chip@epa.gov 503-326-2678	EPA
Aron Borok	aron.borok@eiltld.net 503-484-5711	EI/Tribes
Matt McClincy	mcclincy.matt@deq.state.us 503-229-5538	DEQ
Steve Sechrist	sms@nwnatural.com 503-226-4211	NW Natural
Sylvia Kawwabata	kawabata.Sylvia@epa.gov 206-553-1078	EPA
Robert Neely	Robert.neely@noaa.gov 206-553-2101	NOAA
Julie Early	Julie.early@state.or.us 503-872-6804	

Meeting brought to order by Robin Plance, Chair of Portland Harbor CAG, at 6:05 PM. The CAG membership met in closed session for the first hour. Pizza and soda was provided by Willamette Riverkeeper.

Next meeting: May 11, 2005 from 6 to 8 PM. Remember, in June we switch to the Water Lab.

MOTION: Make Tom Chisolm an At-Large member of the CAG. Travis moved/Jane seconded. Tom will not represent an organization; he is a Citizen member.

The minutes were not available, as Dorothy forgot them. We'll vote next month on the January, March, and April minutes. If you need a copy of the minutes from January or March, Dorothy can email them to you.

Evaluation Committee:

Jane reported that she sent the Matt McClincy at DEQ a letter about ARKEMA's early action. She said we think the method proposed is too fast. It will displace toxics into the river. Robin added that they don't plan baseline wells. Samples will be taken only where they inject chemicals.

The sub-contractors in the McCormick & Baxter cleanup were not paid. They are complaining about the job done.

Steve had an idea to make Portland an "Environmental Enterprise Zone". Jane liked the idea of bringing in Innovative/Alternative technology. Steve plans to introduce his idea to the Northwest Environmental Business Council, a trade association.

At this point, it was 7 PM, and we let the observers in.

Education and Outreach:

Joe read responses that he's received to our PRP letter. There were responses from Schnitzer Steel and the Coast Guard, which were in sharp contrast. The Coast Guard letter details what they're doing, and the Schnitzer letter says no specifics.

Robin asked that Dorothy compile copies of the letters Joe receives in answer to our letter.

Presentation: Early Actions Update

Sean Seldrake from the Seattle EPA office gave an update on early actions.

He talked about early exposure reduction.

There are alternative plans for the Port Slip 4. All use monitored natural recovery, capping, and dredging to a specified elevation. Some ideas involve a Confined Disposal Facility (CDF), which might be a repository for sediment from other parts of the Portland Harbor Superfund site.

Sean said more about CDFs. There is no liner in a CDF. Joe thought the CDF is planned too near the river. Sean said that an earthquake of 8.0 would be big trouble. Sean declined to answer a question about the level of risk involved.

The public comment period on the EE/CA for the Port of Portland T3 Slip 4 cleanup is in 2 months. The Gasco site EE/CA will be available then also.

EPA wants to remove the tar body at the Gasco site. The owner, NW Natural, wants to cap the tar body and leave it in place.

PBT – persistent bioaccumulative toxin, such as DDT

We'll have a McCormick & Baxter update soon, as well as a NW Natural update.

Meeting adjourned by Robin Plance at 7:55 PM.